



Photo by Airman 1st Class Lauren Padden

Senior Airman Corey Lasseigne, Airman 1st Class Samuel Engineer, Senior Airman David Hamilton, Airman Paul Watson and Airman 1st Class Jason Bauer, 509th Security Forces Squadron prepare to advance on the "enemy" at the weapons storage area during the force-on-force exercise Wednesday. Members of the 509th Medical Group simulated an armed attack.

Exercise tests bomb wing's security, accident response

By Senior Airman Joe Lacdan

Public Affairs

With smoke spewing and explosions echoing throughout the base, the 509th Bomb Wing conducted an Anti-Terrorism force-on-force exercise that also tested major accident response capabilities.

"It was a great learning experience," said Maj. James McCreary, 509th Mission Support Group deputy commander. "We grew in our ability to assess and respond to a situation."

Nearly all base units and agencies had roles during the bi-annual exercise, including the 509th Security Forces Squadron, the 509th Civil Engineer Squadron contamination team, the 509th Medical Group, and the 509th Services search and recovery team.

During the force-on-force exercise, 25 members of the 509th MedGp simulated an armed attack, and Security Forces responded with maximum security measures. Security Forces conducts force-on-force exercises to practice squadron members' defensive and offensive tactics, said Master Sgt. James Kendall, 509th SFS. SFS conducts the force-on-force exercise 2-3 times per year, but should increase to 15-20 times in 2005, Sergeant Kendall said.

"The force-on-force exercise teaches us how to react in case the fence line is breached and we have to defend the base's assets," Senior Master Sgt. Mark Kinner said.

The simulated attack was followed by a simulated contamination release incident requiring activation of the base Disaster Control Group. The DCG, which consists of representatives from each base agency assessed the simulated damage and determined what government agencies were required to respond.

The exercise gave the wing the opportunity to implement various force protection checklists, and FPCON conditions, said Lt. Col. Fred Niblock, 509th Bomb Wing chief of plans.



Photo by Airman Jason Burton

Senior Airman Scott Cain, 509th Security Forces Squadron, issues MILES gear to Airman 1st Class Darryl Donaldson, 509th Medical Group, in preparation for the force-on-force exercise.

The exercises were followed by a full recall of base augmentees from each unit in Bldg. 705.

Colonel Niblock said the exercises are crucial to keeping wing members primed and response procedures sharp.

"(The exercise) keeps us on our toes," he said. "We can respond if we're required to various threats out there."



Secretary of the Air Force James Roche resigned Tuesday.

SECAF steps down

Editor's Note: Secretary of the Air Force James Roche submitted his resignation Tuesday, after advising Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld in October of his intention to end his service at the end of President Bush's first term. His message to Airmen follows:

By Secretary James Roche

Secretary of the Air Force

I'm honored to have served the President, the Secretary of Defense and the terrific Airmen I've come to know and love in the past few years as the Secretary of the Air Force. We have successfully met many pressing national security issues facing the nation and the Air Force, especially in the Global War on Terrorism. I'm confident America's Airmen will continue addressing important challenges such as operationalizing the F/A-22, assuming management of the F-35, space systems and continuing reforms at the Air Force Academy. I've served with talented active, Guard, Reserve and civilian Airmen who are successfully countering new threats to our nation through their innovation and creativity. They and their families are making tremendous sacrifices for America and ensuring America's Air Force remains the greatest in the world. I'm proud to call myself an Airman.

COMACC bids farewell

By Gen. Hal Hornburg

Air Combat Commander commander

When I took command in the weeks following September 11th, our nation was engaged in the first battles of the Global War on Terrorism. Over the past three years, ACC has played an integral role in three major military operations, at home and overseas; from the mountains of Afghanistan, to the sands of Iraq, to the skies above our nation's capital. What you have accomplished is nothing short of outstanding.

After 36 years in the Air Force, I have learned there is one unquestionable truth - it all comes down to people. Take care of yourselves, take care of your families and take care of each other. In the months and years ahead, you will be called again to pitch into the fight ... stay ready. Remember being an Airman means being well rounded. You must have not only physical and mental strength, but spiritual health as well. My challenge to you is to keep these three parts of life in balance.

I have had the privilege of serving with the best of America's sons and daughters. I have no doubt the men and women of ACC will give the same outstanding support to the next Commander of Air Combat Command. Thank you for your service to our country and for your families' support during this critical time in our nation's history. Cynthia and I are so proud to have been a part of the Air Combat Command family and we wish you and your families the very best. **Gen. Hornburg retired in a ceremony Wednesday at Langley AFB, Va.**



Hornburg

Commander's Corner

By Col. Chris Miller
509th Bomb Wing Commander

WHY BE THANKFUL? As Thanksgiving approaches, many of us plan a time of reunion and relaxation with our families and friends. Some travel, some stay home. Many times, our holiday will include time spent thinking of past Thanksgivings.

For some, the memories are warm and comforting; others find the days filled with sadness. Each of these things and feelings have a place — there is a season for everything and a time for every purpose.

With our nation at war, many of our family members and fellow Airmen deployed, can we be as thankful this Thanksgiving as we have been in years past? **Yes!**

As Americans — whether active, reserve, guard, civilian; Air Force, Army or Navy, sponsor or family member — **we have so very much;** we have many reasons to be deeply thankful for the blessings we enjoy in this wonderful land of the free. Our standard of comparison tends to be how we were yesterday and how our neighbor is today — and that's a useful standard when we're looking to make things better for ourselves and our families. But it's a false standard when it comes to measuring how we're doing as Americans in this world of many billions of people less fortunate than we are.

Why should we be thankful? Perhaps because we can sleep at night without fear of death before daybreak; we rarely miss a meal; we live in a society where

cooperation and dialog are the norm, and honesty is the standard, not the exception. Perhaps because we fully expect our headaches to be obliterated quickly by painkillers and our sicknesses to be treated by people who would have been considered magicians even fifty years ago. Perhaps because we receive hundreds of channels, some in high-definition color, in a world where many still have only a radio — and that radio receives only the propaganda that murderous leaders choose to send. Perhaps we can be thankful because we work in an Air Force that puts people at the top of its priorities, even if it falls short of providing a perfectly stressless life to every Airman each day.

Most of all, I believe we can be thankful because we live in an America where there is always hope! Since this nation was born, Americans have been a hopeful and faithful people, extending a hand to those around them in need, respecting

each other more than almost any other people. In our homes, our squadrons, our communities and our lives, we have much to be grateful for—even in the tough times—if we'll just look for what's good. My family and I wish you a Thanksgiving true to its beginning as an American holiday: what our ancestors had wasn't much, but they were thankful they had it — and their attitude made this country what it is today. Happy Thanksgiving!

Your life...

...is more precious than gold to you, your family and your friends. **Think — assess the risk — do the right thing** this holiday! That might be making sure you're *rested* before a trip, ensuring you wear the *right protective equipment* on a motorcycle, or making sure you have a *designated driver*. Whatever your Thanksgiving plans, remember that **safety is a mindset**, and **YOU** are the one who has to have it!

Growing up in military shapes teen's life

By Maj. Bruce Bartholomew
509th Logistics Readiness Squadron commander

Life in the military is tough. Life as a military dependent is even tougher. I know — I've been both. I've watched my father leave for a remote assignment to Vietnam and I've watched the anguish of my mother as she dealt with his absence. I've witnessed my wife's tears as she recounted our children's exploits during my temporary duty assignments away from home. I've missed birthdays, anniversaries, soccer games and scout meetings — all so I could defend this great nation. However, I sincerely believe life as a military brat is one of the greatest experiences.

My son, Joshua, now a freshman at the University of North Dakota, wrote the following essay for the Defense Commissary Agency scholarship program last year. I've always known these events have helped shape him, but I never realized how great of an impact each of these significant emotional events had on his character and on his determination to become a physician and to defeat cancer. Even today, I'm still struck by the power in his words and in how he views his future as a warrior. We should all take great pride in our profession and be grateful that we possess the warrior spirit that each of us passes to our children through our words and actions. Here is the essay:

From Medical Groups to War on Cancer

*There are many communities in the world.
While they are all groups of people, each*

has unique characteristics that affect and challenge the individuals within it in different ways. The military is a community replete with unique challenges and rewards, and I have been greatly affected by many aspects of military life throughout my childhood.

From the hardship of a father's deployment to the fascination of exploring a foreign country, I know military life. However, no aspect of that life has affected me more than Air Force Base Medical Group personnel and Scouting mentors.

My own birth was influenced by a medical group, as I was born in the United States Air Force Regional Hospital at Carswell Air Force Base, Texas. From immunizations to newborn sisters to dental surgery, I experienced medical groups in many ways.

While I was in eighth grade, my parents met Col. John Lee, an Eagle Scout and the commander of the 78th Medical Group, at Warner Robins Air Force Base, Georgia. Learning of my interest in medicine, he offered me a volunteer/study program at the base clinic. I spent 100 hours over the next year observing medical personnel in a variety of tasks and assisting with activities in flights throughout the medical group.

From pediatrics, I moved to other sections of the clinic, ranging in scope from facilities management and public health, to the pharmacy and surgery, to wartime and casualty response training. I was adopted into the clinic family and nicknamed 'Doogie.' I most enjoyed working in radiology where the radiologist

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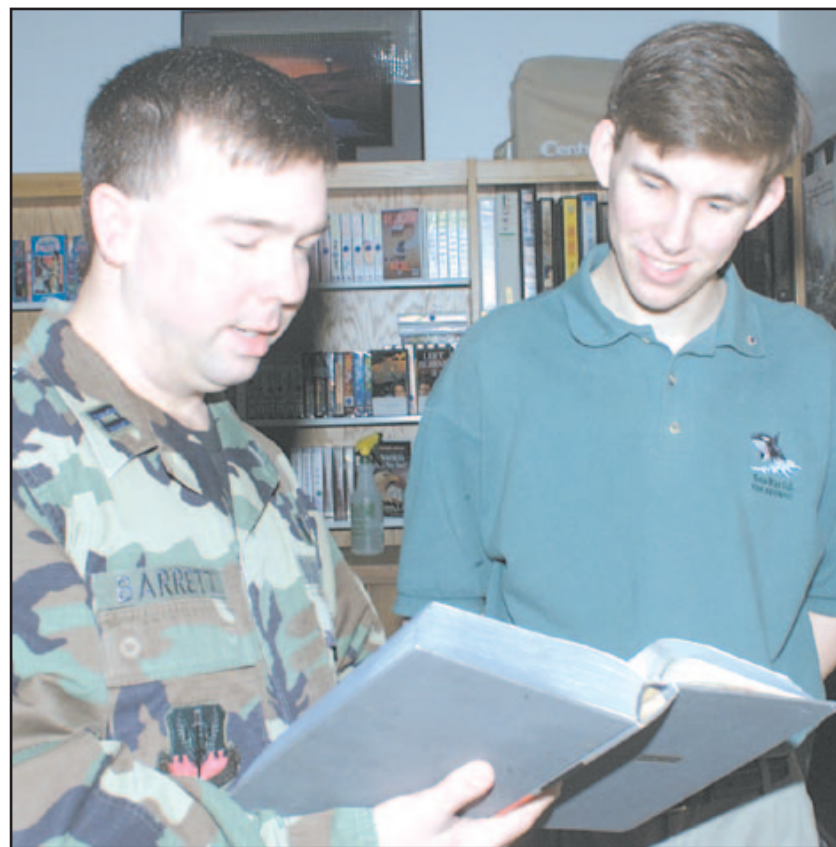


Photo by Senior Airman Joe Lacdan

Joshua Bartholomew, son of Maj. Bruce Bartholomew, 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron commander, reads a book with Chaplain (Capt.) Ray Barrett, 509th Bomb Wing in the base chapel library last spring. Josh is now a freshman at the University of North Dakota majoring in biology with an emphasis on pre-health sciences.

Editorial Staff

509th BW Commander Col. Chris Miller
Chief, Public Affairs Maj. Don Langley
NCOIC, Public Affairs Staff Sgt. Francesca Popp
Editor Senior Airman Joe Lacdan
Staff writer Airman Jason Burton
Staff writer Melissa Klinkner

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The deadline for article submissions to the *Whiteman Spirit* is noon Friday. If a holiday falls on Friday, the deadline then becomes 4 p.m. Thursday. Articles will be published on a space-available basis. Submission doesn't guarantee publication.

For more information, call the *Whiteman Spirit* office at 687-6133, fax us at 687-7948, e-mail: whiteman.spirit@whiteman.AF.mil or write to us at:

509th BW/PA, 509 Spirit Blvd. Ste. 111
Whiteman AFB, Mo. 65305

Patients encouraged not to delay medical care

By Col. (Dr.) Richard Bachmann
509th Medical Group Commander

TriWest, Whiteman's regional Tricare contractor, is having significant problems with the new referral approval process which began Oct. 1. These problems have caused a great deal of confusion and stress.

Once a primary care manager puts a referral into the system, it's faxed to the TriWest hub in Colorado Springs, Colo. There, it should be reviewed and approved within five days, after which confirmation of approval is mailed to the patient and the consultant physician.

When working properly, this should take about two weeks. This is different from how the 509th MedGp handled referrals before Oct. 1 and now it's taking significantly longer.

Because of this delay, TriWest is encouraging patients not to delay care while waiting for the approval to arrive in the mail. As a temporary measure — probably for the next three to six months — patients are allowed to call and make an appointment as soon as the referral is sent to the hub without waiting for confirmation to come in the mail.

The MedGp clinical staff will continue to make urgent appointments for patients before they leave the clinic. If your medical problem is not urgent but you feel you can't wait for the approval to arrive in the mail, it's OK to make the appointment yourself.

A list of network specialists is available at the Tricare Web site at <http://www.triwest.com>.

Click on the "Find a Provider" tab at the top of the page and enter the geographical data. Users must know what type of provider or service was requested in the referral in order to pick from any of the network providers shown.

Patients can call that provider's office and make an appointment. Network providers who want assurance that the referral will be approved can call the MedGp at 687-2121 and the TriWest information will be faxed to the office.

TriWest is working hard to make sure these network providers understand the situation and is assuring them they will get paid for the work they do.

Patients can also call 687-2121 to find out if the referral was initiated by the MedGp provider and if it has been faxed to the hub. Once it's sent to the hub, it's basically beyond the 509th MedGp's ability to influence how long it takes to get processed.

People who aren't comfortable using the Web to find a consultant or are having trouble with the search can visit the Tricare service center at the clinic and ask for help with the process.

Additionally, if the closest available provider seems too far away, visit the Tricare service center to find out if

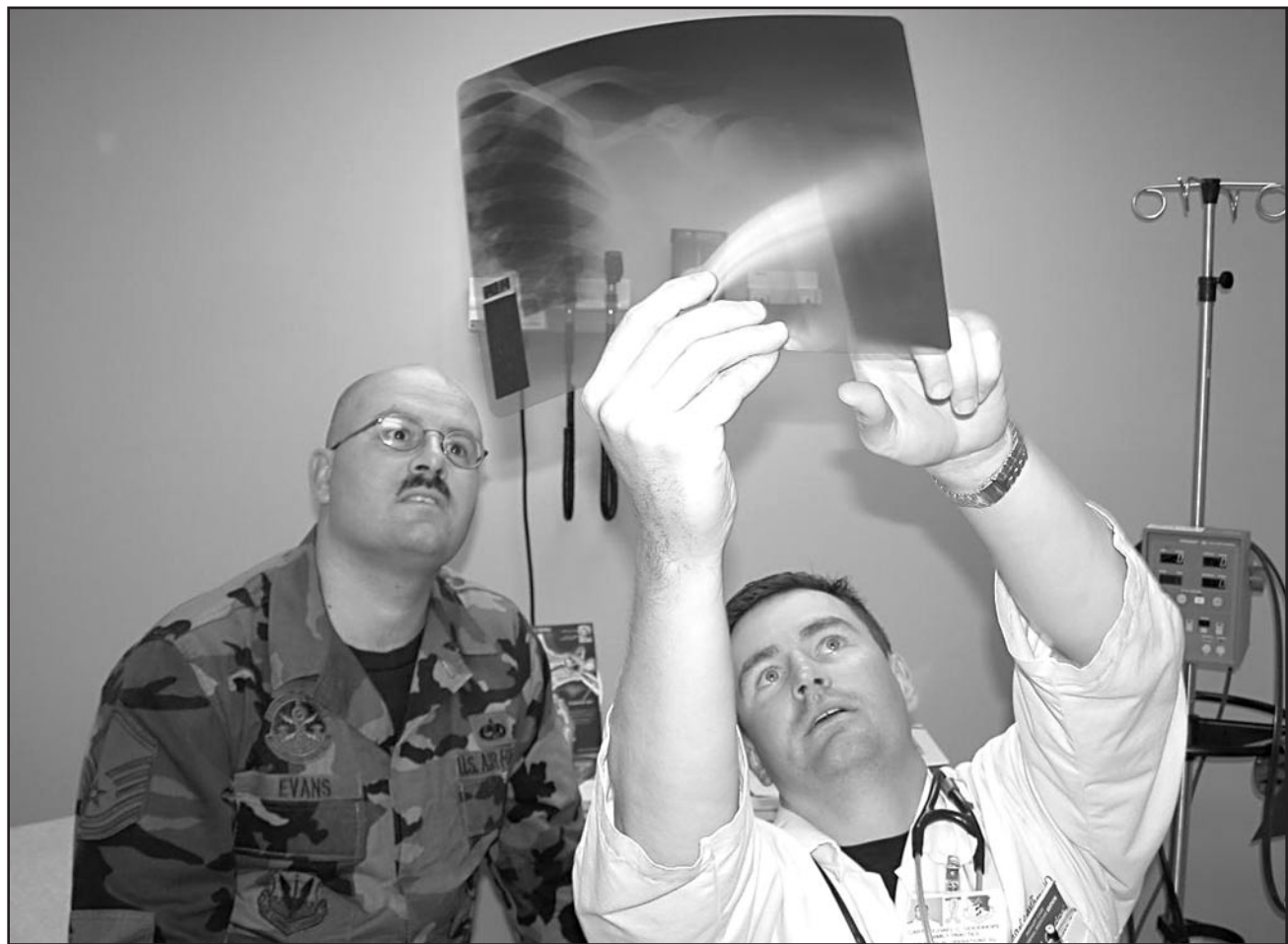


Photo by Senior Airman Joe Laddan

Capt. (Dr.) Michael Goodhope, 509th Medical Operations Squadron, and Master Sgt. James Evans, 509th Maintenance Squadron, look at an x-ray. Patients are encouraged not to delay medical care while waiting for completion of medical referrals.

there's one closer.

Please don't call the MedGp to ask if your referral has been approved by the Colorado Springs hub. By contract, Tricare customer service phone calls should be handled by the hub staff. The TriWest information line people can call to check on the status of their referral is 888-874-9378.

Customers will be asked if they are a beneficiary, provider or someone else. Tell the TriWest staff member you're a beneficiary and give your social security number.

You will then be asked if you want status for a claim or

an authorization. You will say authorization and they will tell you how long you will be on hold and then be given an update on the status of the referral.

This is the contract the government signed with TriWest and the initial implementation has been a problem across the country. However, everyone is working hard to make it succeed.

Overall, Tricare remains a phenomenally valuable benefit — one which none of us should take for granted. We appreciate your patience as TriWest works the bugs out of this new system.

Whatever happens to one of us, happens to all of us ... 509ers

By Chaplain (Maj.) Shane Gaster
509th Bomb Wing

Thanksgiving is one holiday that's purely American. It's a holiday that celebrates no war, no hero in particular and no religious creed; it doesn't even fall on the same date each year.

It belongs to no party or sect in particular but to Americans in general. If it celebrates anything, it celebrates the spirit of risk-taking, sacrifice, fortitude, and the perseverance to overcome deprivation and hardship, and then in humility acknowledge that it is by the grace of One greater than we are Who enables us to do it.

In early November 1620 the Mayflower reached the New England coastline. On the 11th, the ship stopped near the present Provincetown, Mass. Recorded in the journal of then-Gov. William Bradford, we learn "Sixteen men lowered a boat and rowed ashore, fell to their knees, and blessed the God of Heaven, who had brought them over the vast and furious ocean, and delivered them from the perils and

miseries thereof, again to set their feet on the firm and stable earth."

Desiring a better site to establish their colony, the Pilgrims moved the Mayflower to the present Plymouth, Mass., with the first people going ashore on Dec. 18. Before going ashore, they drafted a document that would provide the foundation for their new community. It's known as the Mayflower Compact, and what it said, in essence, is that "Whatever happens to one of us happens to all of us."

It's that spirit of solidarity that makes a nation, wing, squadron and our families strong.

This year we find ourselves as a military community deployed to distant lands helping others in the struggle for peace and liberty. If war can separate us, it can also be an experience that can draw us together. We're learning again the lessons the pilgrims learned back in Plymouth — that difficult times can separate us or they can unite us.

While we may not be in control of the circumstances around us, we are always in control of how we choose to respond to them.

If we're thankful for anything in particular this year, let it include living in a country that is still the envy of the world. We stand head and shoulders above other nations in our willingness to help those less fortunate and in need.

No other nation takes the resources they have been blessed with and shares them like the United States. That is stewardship. That is Thanksgiving in action.

This Thanksgiving, as many in our wing are deployed, let's try to spend some quality time with our family, loved ones and friends, and take time to remember our men and women who are on the front lines representing the most powerful nation in the world.

For all we are called to do, let us do it with a sense of pride, but always with thanksgiving for every opportunity we have to make a difference for the good, within our homes, our unit, and far beyond for so many others who look to our nation to stand up and do what is good and right. And may the Lord bless you as you seek Him.



Spirit file photo

Maj. Joel Santa Teresa and Master Sgt. Gina Anderson, 509th Bomb Wing, put food on their plate during the 509th Bomb Wing holiday lunch in 2003.

Pet owners: Know the rules, register at clinic

Pet owners living in base housing must register your pet at the vet clinic within five days of moving in. Three pets per house are permitted in base housing. Register a pet at the vet clinic, bring the following:

- ✓ Most current vaccination records for your pet
- ✓ Most current rabies certificate

Pets are not allowed to run free on Whiteman. They also can't be tied up or chained outside without direct supervision. They can be exercised on a leash only. Permission to fence a housing area yard must be obtained from the housing management office.

The base Vet Clinic offers vaccinations, heartworm test-

ing, feline leukemia or FIV testing, fecal exams, parasite control, microchipping, health certificates, diagnosis and treatment of zoonotic diseases. They carry an assortment of heartworm, flea or tick preventatives, shampoo, ear cleansers, dental products and vitamins. Vaccinations and minor sick calls can be received by appointment only.

The Vet Clinic is located on the corner of 5th Street and Lockbourne in Bldg. 103. The clinic hours are 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. The clinic is closed Saturdays and Sundays. For more details, call the clinic at 687-2667.

The *Whiteman Spirit* wants to feature you.

Do you, or does someone you know, have a story idea you'd like to see in the paper?

Let our staff know about it.

For more information, call 687-6133 or e-mail whiteman.spirit@whiteman.af.mil.



Did you know you can fill out a Department of Defense Form 2266, Hometown News Release, for a variety of accomplishments? For more details, call 1st Lt. Ed Gulick at 687-6122.

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AAFES begins online gift registry

DALLAS — Authorized exchange customers can let everyone know what their “must have” gift is for this holiday season by logging on and registering it in the Exchange Online Gift Registry.

The electronic Gift Registry is the high-tech answer to the traditional letter to Santa. Customers can log on the user-friendly registry at [aafes.com](http://www.aafes.com) <http://www.aafes.com>, <http://www.usmc-mccs.org/>, <http://www.navy-nex.com> or <http://www.cg-exchange.com/>> to compile a wish list that’s easily accessible to everyone, including Santa.

Regardless of where they may be stationed, military parents can see what their children want and with just a couple of clicks of the mouse can purchase and mail those gifts home for the holidays.

Maj. Gen. Kathryn Frost, Army and Air Force Exchange Service commander said the Exchange Online Gift Registry makes gift giving especially easy for deployed troops and their families.

“Letters to Santa are no longer confined to geographic boundaries,” General Frost said. “The Exchange’s Gift Registry allows children around the world to compile a wish list that Santa can access from Fort Bragg (N.C.) to Baghdad (Iraq).”

The gift registry allows exchange customers to register multiple special occasions including Thanksgiving, Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa and anniversaries. After choosing an occasion, customers can quickly choose gifts by pointing and clicking the mouse.

The registry also provides a simple search feature that allows other authorized exchange customers the ability to look up a registry list by name or occasion. The gift registry automatically removes gifts from a list as they are purchased to ensure the list offers up-to-the-minute gift availability data.

Exchange authorized customers include active-duty military members, military retirees, reservists, National Guard members, Department of Defense civilians stationed overseas, exchange associates and their family members.

ESSAY, continued from Page 2

helped me discover a personal talent and influenced my future career focus.

Meanwhile, I was troop guide and senior patrol leader of the base’s Boy Scout Troop 220. Through the influence of scout leaders and mentors — most of them military members — I wanted to become one of the Eagle Scouts on base and worked hard on Eagle-required merit badges, especially personal management. The focus of this merit badge was to help me develop time and money management skills.

My interest in radiology led me to research careers in that field for a badge requirement, and I discovered oncology. I knew little about cancer except that it was a deadly and unpredictable disease. The thought of helping people with cancer appealed to me. I wanted to devote my life to fighting cancer.

I had not yet become an Eagle Scout when I was able to see the full effect of the disease. Zachary Scott was a healthy, dynamic 22-year-old Airman at Warner Robins and assistant scoutmaster of my troop. He sickened suddenly with an aggressive form of leukemia at Christmas. Despite treatments and bone marrow transplants, Zak was laid to rest in June the next summer.

It was a shock to the entire base, especially the boys in my troop. The next year, a family friend succumbed to brain tumors. These traumatic deaths established my final decision. I would become a pediatric oncologist and fight leukemia and brain tumors, the top killers of children.

My medical group experience, scouting mentors, and these deadly cancers continue to influence me. Even today at Whiteman, the four-year-old son of an Airman in my father’s squadron battles leukemia.

As I pursue higher education in preparation for medical school, I am filled with resolve to help people in all communities. I have seen the enemy and am eager to begin the war. Military life’s most significant impact on me will culminate when I defeat cancer.

Got news?

Call

687-6133

Keeping the mission in focus:

Military photographer spreads positive attitude



By Melissa Klinkner
Public affairs

Seventy-two hours. That's the amount of time it took for Staff Sgt. Tia Schroeder, 509th Communications Squadron, to coordinate and take photos of 30 Whiteman teams and over 200 people, all while meeting Nuclear Operational Readiness Inspection requirements.

Three days into the NORI, the Inspector General Team informed the Multimedia Center that photos they'd received from other sources didn't meet the formatting standards needed for the IG's out-brief slide show presentation.

"Almost all of the Superior Performer Team photos needed to be re-accomplished and they needed the Multimedia Center's help," said Capt. Tyron Wright, 509th CS. With limited manning in her shop, Sergeant Schroeder took on this challenging task, he said.

Along with patience and flexibility, Sergeant Schroeder said she was able to complete the job with 30 minutes to spare with the assistance of her first sergeant, Master Sgt. Mark Cherry, 509th CS, and Captain Wright. "As I look back on it, I'm impressed that we actually made it happen in the short amount of time we had to accomplish the job," Sergeant Schroeder said.

"She believes in getting the job done without complaining, regardless of how long it takes," said Captain Wright. "She constantly demonstrates professionalism with a smile."

As a still photographic journeyman, the recent NORI project is not uncommon to Sergeant Schroeder. She's

always on call and her still photography duties include taking photos for award ceremonies, material deficiencies, criminal investigations, retirements, contingency operations, and studio and passport photography.

According to co-workers, Sergeant Schroeder works long and often late hours with Wing Safety, Security Forces and the Office of Special Investigations on all jobs ranging from crime scene evidence to autopsies.

Sergeant Schroeder's photography has earned many awards and recognitions during her time in the Air Force. Her extensive list of accomplishments includes her images being used by CNN, Fox News and the Associated Press, as well as published in newspapers across the nation, and foreign newspapers worldwide. She was also featured in a segment on MTV.

She originally joined the Air Force for a chance to attend college and travel, but her Air Force career has now holds greater meaning.

Sergeant Schroeder said she's enjoyed being at Whiteman because, "I've enjoyed the closeness of the shop that I work in. The people that have left and the people here now seem to really care about each other; it's important to each individual on our team that everyone succeeds in their personal and professional goals."

Airman Jackie Wilson, 509th CS, agreed and said Sergeant Schroeder is a large part of the closeness of the shop in that she, "always keeps the morale high and is an exciting individual to be around," she said. "She sets examples and through those examples, people of every rank learn from her."

Although she's enjoyed being a part of the 509th CS and has learned much from those in her shop, Sergeant Schroeder said she's looking forward to an upcoming opportunity to represent the Air Force as a recruiter in Sedalia. "This will give me a chance to make a difference in the lives of others," she said. "I'm looking forward to educating the public about the Air Force and our way of



Spirit file photo

Staff Sgt. Tia Schroeder, 509th Communications Squadron, has impacted her unit with strong work ethics and positive attitude, her peers say.

life."

When the time comes for her to leave, Sergeant Schroeder will be missed by those in her squadron.

"She's an invaluable asset to the 509th CS," said Captain Wright. "At all times she's a positive representative of her squadron and she's sacrificed significant personal time and effort to ensure the squadron met its mission requirements."

Sergeant Schroeder's skills put her in high demand for overseas deployments. Her husband Staff Sgt. Jed Schroeder, 509th Security Forces Squadron is also in the Air Force. "It seems like one of us is always deployed," she said.

Despite the challenges, Sergeant Schroeder said she's determined to do a good job. "I've overcome this adversity by practicing the (Air Force) core values, especially service before self," she said. "The mission always comes first."

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Photo by 1st Lt. Ed Gulick

International interview

Staff Sgt. Andy Chocha, 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, is interviewed Vinko Bicanic, of Mira Media, a German television company Tuesday. Mira Media filmed a documentary on the 509th Bomb Wing and the B-2.

Winter road safety takes everyone's help

As the snow season approaches, the 509th Civil Engineer Squadron Snow Team is poised for Missouri's diverse and hazardous weather patterns. Our snow team consists of 48 personnel divided into two shifts, working day and night to keep the Wing's mission up and running without missing a beat. In order for snow removal operations to run smoothly, CES would like assistance in the following areas:

When bad weather is imminent and confirmed by base weather, base housing residents should park all vehicles on their driveway or in the garage. This will keep streets free of obstructions for snow removal equipment and emergency response teams. Don't park vehicles on seeded grass areas.

Boats, recreational or non-operational vehicles need to be stored in appropriate areas, not on the street.

Vehicles obstructing snow removal operations may be ticketed by base law enforcement and, if necessary, may be towed at the owner's expense. While this may seem a bit harsh or inconvenient to some, everyone's help will ensure a safer and more efficient snow removal process, also protecting personal property from possible damage.

Other considerations should be:

✓ When clearing sidewalks and driveways, avoid shoveling or blowing snow on

the streets.

✓ Building custodians/facility managers should make sure they have the proper tools and materials on-hand to remove snow and ice from immediate work areas. The self-help store has chemicals available to building custodians to prevent ice build-up and to melt ice off sidewalks and driveways.

✓ The military family housing self-help store also has chemicals available to prevent ice build-up and to melt ice off sidewalks and stairways.

✓ Drivers and pedestrians should stay a safe distance away from the snow and ice removal equipment and 50 feet away from a sanding vehicle. This will help avoid the risk of vehicles being "sanded." Joggers should avoid running in streets during snow and ice storms as these vehicles have limited visibility and take longer to stop and turn — especially when streets are icy.

✓ Please ensure children don't play, sled or build snow forts near roads and driveways during heavy snow falls, our equipment operators have limited vision. When pushing snow, operators have reduced ability to stop. Housing yards and playgrounds are perfect for this type of play.

For more details, call Master Sgt. Edward Lukitsch or Tech. Sgt. David-Beasley of the heavy repair section at 687-2231.

Tis the season to drive safely

By Tech. Sgt. Raul Betancourt

509th Bomb Wing Safety Office

Many deaths and injuries that occur between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day are directly related to holiday festivities.

This holiday season, as you take part in celebrations with family, friends and co-workers, toasting to the coming new year, remember this: Someone in America dies in an alcohol-related crash every 33 minutes. Every two minutes, someone is injured. Don't let it be someone you love.

That's why it's so important to celebrate sensibly. It takes just a little forethought to designate a sober driver before you head out for a party. Barring that, use taxi services and other alternative transportation or if possible, spend the night rather than driving home impaired. And don't make the mistake of thinking just one eggnog won't matter; fatigue and stress — common

around the holidays — can escalate the effects of alcohol to deadly levels.

If you're hosting a party, accept your responsibility for guests' safety. Don't serve alcohol to underage guests or to anyone who has clearly "had enough." It's not just the conscientious thing to do; serving those underage is illegal, and serving anyone who is visibly intoxicated can leave you liable. Offer non-alcoholic beverages and protein-rich snacks. Stop serving alcohol at least one hour before the party ends. Take the car keys from any guest who is impaired and call a cab or ask a non-drinking guest to provide a safe ride home.

Impaired driving is a violent crime that accounts for more than one-third of all traffic fatalities every year. Why risk heartbreak around the holidays, when you feel particularly grateful for the safety and good health of your loved ones? We're all accountable behind the wheel; don't let it be a tragedy that sobers you up.

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Photo by Airman 1st Class Ryan Wilson

From one generation to the next

Staff Sgt. Nakuru Tribble and Airman 1st Class Raquel Onedera, 509th Bomb Wing, serve food to veterans at the Veteran's Home in Warrensburg Nov. 12. Ten Whiteman members volunteered to spend time with veterans.



Photo by 2nd Lt. Mary Olsen

Mentoring tomorrow's leaders

Second Lt. Tom Hamlyn (center), 509th Communications Squadron, talks with University of Missouri ROTC cadets Henry Pflugradt and Nathan Ferguson about the communications career field. Company grade officers from Whiteman visited the University of Missouri in Columbia, Mo., to speak to cadets and answer questions.

10 ways to protect your information

- 1 Know who your unit computer systems security officer is.
- 2 Ensure passwords contain at least eight characters, consisting of numbers and special characters, and are exclusive to each system/user.
- 3 Don't write down or share passwords and change them often — at least every 90 days.
- 4 Use a password-protected screen saver when leaving your computer unattended.
- 5 Scan disks, e-mail attachments and downloaded files using the latest updated antiviral product and signature file.
- 6 The data owner is responsible for data. Know the sensitivity level of the

information you are processing, the requirements for protecting it and the security limitations of the systems used to transmit it.

- 7 Share information only with people and systems authorized to receive it.
- 8 Clear and sanitize appropriate processing and storage devices.
- 9 Report incidents and vulnerabilities to your CSSO.
- 10 Ensure your systems are certified and accredited. Systems designated to process classified information must have an emission security assessment completed before processing is authorized. (Courtesy of the 509th Communications Squadron)

Propulsion flight produces power behind B-2's punch



Tech. Sgt. David Bauer, 509th Maintenance Squadron Propulsion Flight, inspects for cracks, blade damage and foreign objects in the intake of an F118-GE-100 jet engine used in B-2s. The 24-member propulsion flight is responsible for the removal, maintenance and installation of 113 engines used in B-2s.



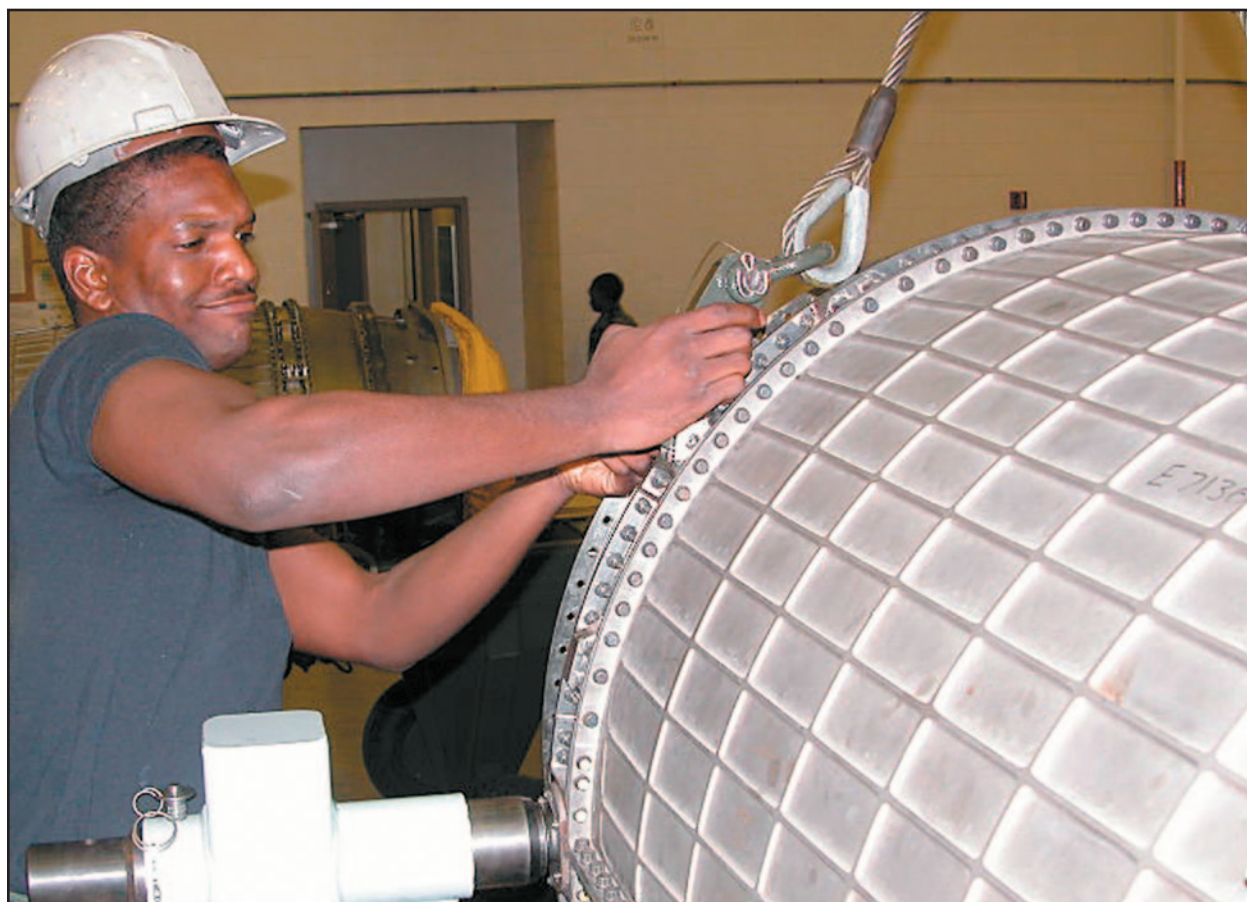
Airman Keenan Quinories, 509th Maintenance Squadron Propulsion Flight, inspects a tool box to ensure all tools are present. Tool inventory is always done after working on an engine to ensure a tool is not left inside.



Airman 1st Class Josh Worley, 509th Maintenance Squadron Propulsion Flight, performs an overall inspection of a B-2 engine.



Senior Airman Ruben Zamora, 509th Maintenance Squadron Propulsion Flight, ensures all lines and cables are connected from the test cell to the engine. The test cell measures more than 588 engine parameters during all phases of an engine run to ensure proper performance.



Airman 1st Class Brian Harris, 509th Maintenance Squadron Propulsion Flight, disconnects an engine from an overhead hoist after placing it in a maintenance stand. The 509th MXS Propulsion Flight performs tailpipe inspection and repair, the teardown and rebuild of engines, and engine inspections, removal and installation.



Photos by Airman Jason Burton

Above: Staff Sgt. Jamarr Blackmon, 509th Maintenance Squadron Propulsion Flight, inspects the inside of a B-2 tailpipe assembly for excessive wear and tear. The mission of the 509th MXS Propulsion Flight is to maintain and provide serviceable spare engines to support the B-2's mission. During fiscal year 2004, 509th MXS Propulsion Flight obtained a Whiteman all-time high spare engine level by producing 23 spare engines, which exceeded the Air Combat Command war readiness requirements by 575 percent. Right: Sergeant Blackmon inspects the liner cooling slots on a tailpipe. These slots are important to maintain the structural integrity of the tailpipe assembly. If there are three damaged slots in a row, the tailpipe liner has to be replaced.



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Spirit Award



Senior Airman Celeste Jackson

509th Operations Support Squadron

Senior Airman Celeste Jackson, 509th Operations Support Squadron, received the Whiteman Spirit Award from Col. Chris Miller, 509th Bomb Wing commander, Nov. 8.

Col. Curtiss Petrek, 509th Operations Group commander, nominated Airman Jackson for the award. Airman Jackson, a personnel journeyman, spends 10-12 hours a week coaching the Knob Noster high school girls volleyball team. Colonel Petrek said Airman Jackson has an outstanding ability to relate to the girls.

"Airman Jackson makes each of the girls feel special," Colonel Petrek said. "She spends time with them and encourages each one. She's been a role model and reflected positively on the Air Force."

Personally Speaking

Duty title: Personnel journeyman.

Time on station: 1 year.

Hometown: Vancouver, Wa.

Hobbies: Coaching, playing and watching volleyball.

Goals: To make the Air Force volleyball team in 2005.

Best thing about Whiteman: My friends.

Pet Peeves: Unproductive days.

What motivates your winning spirit? Seeing how much fun the girls have playing my favorite sport encourages me to stay involved.

If you could change one thing about Whiteman, what would it be? To have it moved closer to the city.

Submitting a Whiteman Spirit Award

Individuals are nominated from within their units or by customers impressed by the individual making Whiteman a better place to live and work by going far beyond his or her assigned duties to "make it happen."

If you know someone who has the Whiteman Spirit, send the nomination to the 509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 509, Suite 111, or e-mail whiteman.spirit@whiteman.af.mil.

Extra, extra read all about it

The Whiteman Spirit wants to feature you.

Do you, or does someone you know, have a story idea you'd like to see in the paper?

Let our staff know about it.

For more information, call 687-6133 or e-mail whiteman.spirit@whiteman.af.mil.

Community

FSC celebrates family month

The family support center hosts a National Military Family month barbecue at 5 p.m. Nov. 30. All Whiteman members and their families are invited. To make reservations or for more details, call the FSC at 687-7132. The deadline is Wednesday.

Base Advisory Council meets

The Base Advisory Council meets at 9 a.m. Tuesday in the Spirit conference room. The purpose of the council is to resolve problems that affect the military members of the installation as a group. For more details, call Tech. Sgt. Wiggins, Carol at 687-5175.

Chapel Thanksgiving service set

There will be a Thanksgiving Eve service 7 p.m. Wednesday at the base Chapel. A pie social will follow. For more details, call Airman 1st Class Amy Bowden at 687-3652.

Blood drive set

The Whiteman Officer Spouses' Club will sponsor a Kansas City Community Blood Center blood drive 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Today at the community center. Those who donated blood during the september

blood drive meet the required 56-day waiting period and are eligible to donate. For donor eligibility requirement information call 1-888-647-4040. For more details or to volunteer, call Michelle Hunt at 563-4858.

Recycling program online

The recycling program is expanding and has included a web site on the Whiteman intranet site. The web site is updated weekly by Mon noon and contains lots of information about recycling as well as information about a resale store. Please visit the web site weekly as we are expanding weekly. The site address is:
<https://intranet.whiteman.af.mil/509BW/509MSG/509CES/RRRP/rrrpindex.htm>

For more details, call Pat Martinez at 687-2017 or Wayne Blindauer at 563-1122.

Tree lighting ceremony set

The 509th Bomb Wing's annual tree lighting ceremony takes place at 5 p.m. Dec. 6 on Spirit Boulevard and 3rd Street adjacent to the shoppette.

A reception will follow at the community center at 5:30 p.m. and will consist of free children's Bingo, performance of the Whiteman Elementary select choir, Santa visits and holiday crafts/tree decorations. Children's make-and-take crafts will be free with the donation of canned goods that will go to the food pantry. Refreshments of cookies, popcorn, hot chocolate

and punch will be served.

Education

Microsoft certification available

The Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support has announced a fully-funded pilot testing program that provides free Microsoft certification test to eligible service members.

The number of tests is limited and will be issued on a first come, first served basis. For more details, visit the website at <http://www.dantes-microsoft-test.com> or contact Larry Broudrick at the education center at 687-2420.

Scholarship program announced

The scholarships for military children program is currently underway for the fifth year. Administered by the Fisher House Foundation and funded by manufacturers and industries supporting military commissaries, the program has awarded more than 2,000 scholarships to sons and daughters of active-duty service members totaling \$3 million.

The program is available to unmarried children under the age of 21. Applicants should have a current ID card and ensure that they, as well as their sponsor, are currently enrolled in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System

database.

Applications are available at commissaries or online at <http://www.militaryscholar.org>.

AFA grant available

The Air Force Aid Society 2005/2006 General Henry Arnold Education \$1,500 Grant Program applications have arrived and are in stock at the Family Support Center. Interested people may pick up an application at the FSC or go online to www.afas.org.

The grant program is offered to: dependent children of active duty, Title 10 Reservists on extended active duty, Title 32 AGR performing full-time active duty, retired USAF members, retired Reservists with 20 or more years of qualifying service, spouses of active duty, Title 10 Reservists residing and attending school within the continental US, and surviving spouses of Airmen who died on active duty or in a retired status.

Last year 31 children and 23 spouses (54 total) of WAFB active-duty Airmen applied and 34 grants were awarded. Don't think you won't qualify. All ranks are eligible — including spouses and children of senior NCOs and officers — and are encouraged to apply. The deadline for applying is 11 March 2005.

For more information, go online to www.afas.org or call the Family Support Center at 687-7132.

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Services page editor.....Jen Hemme
509th Services Squadron.....687-4386
*No federal endorsement of mentioned sponsors intended.

Sports & Recreation

Stars & Strikes
687-5114

Sunday family bowling special

Families can bowl 2-5 p.m. Sundays at Stars & Strikes. The Sunday family special includes: \$1 per game and \$1 per shoe rental. Call Stars & Strikes for more details.

Outdoor Recreation
687-5565

Overtime rock climbing

Join outdoor recreation in nighttime rock climbing today. Certified climbers will be able to climb from 5:30-9 p.m. A course certification for new climbers will be held from 6-8 p.m. Call outdoor recreation for more details or to sign up for this free event.

Fitness Center
687-5496

Jingle bell jog

Enjoy a 5K walk/run beginning at 11:30 a.m. Dec. 15. The fitness center will provide a jingle bell to be worn on your shoe during the run. Call the fitness center for more details about this free event. Sponsored in part by Gatorade.*

Travel & Leisure

Tickets & Travel
687-5643

Falling leaves and falling prices

Autumn is here and there are falling prices at Tickets & Travel. Before you enjoy the beautiful drive to Branson, Mo., stop by Tickets & Travel to save money on Branson's Christmas shows, Silver Dollar City and hotels. Call Tickets & Travel for more information.

Food & Fun

Mission's End
687-4422

Mission's End will be closed Thursday and Friday for the Thanksgiving holiday.

'National Have a Bad Day' lunch special

Have a bad day, but only pay \$1 for lunch 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Nov. 19 at Mission's End. Enjoy building your own soup, salad and sandwich. Members only; call Mission's End for more details.

Karaoke

Enjoy karaoke 8 p.m.-midnight Nov. 19 in the Lavene Lounge at Mission's End.

Ozark Inn
687-5469

Thanksgiving day hours

Ozark Inn will be open Thanksgiving day. Meals will be served during the following hours: breakfast 7-9 a.m., lunch 11 a.m.-2 p.m. and dinner 6-8 p.m. Call Ozark Inn for more details.



Community Activities

Community Center
687-5617

Whiteman numismatic

Do you have an interest in coin collecting? This is a free opportunity for all ages to have a licensed coin grader appraise your coins, 7-9 p.m. Fridays at the community center. Call the community center for more information.

CMSU chess challenge

People are invited to challenge Central Missouri State University chess players beginning at 10 a.m. Saturday at the community center. There is a \$5 fee for this event. Prizes will be awarded and light refreshments will be provided. Call the community center for more details.

Line & couple dance lessons

Free basic instructional dance lessons for line & couples every Wednesday, 6-8 p.m. Western dances you will learn include: Boot Scoot, Romeo, Cotton Eye Joe, Two-Step, Waltz & Cha Cha. Call 687-5617 for more information.

Teen Center
687-5819

Movie night

Teens can watch a movie today from 7-10 p.m. at the teen center. Free for members and a \$2 fee for non-members, popcorn will be provided.

Dinner and a movie

Teens can travel to Sedalia, Mo., for pizza and a movie at the Galaxy Theater 6 p.m.-midnight Saturday. Transportation will be provided; bring money for pizza and movie admission. Call the teen center to sign up and for more information.

Youth Center
687-5586

Thanksgiving feast

Kindergartners through seventh graders are welcome to celebrate Thanksgiving with a feast, games, movies and more today from 6:30-9:30 p.m. at the youth center. There is a \$7 fee for members and \$8.50 fee for non-members. Call the youth center for more details.

Child Development Center
687-5588

Openings for full-time care

The child development center has care available for children 3 to 5 years old in need of full-time care. The child development center is accredited through the National Academy of Early Childhood Programs.

Drop-in care

The child development center has drop-in day care 6:30 a.m.-6 p.m. on a space-available basis. Call for more details.

Whiteman Base Theater

Friday

Friday Night Lights 7:00 p.m. PG-13
Starring -Billy Bob Thornton & Derek Luke

Saturday

Shark Tale 7:00 p.m. PG
Animated

Sunday

Taxi 5:30 p.m. PG-13
Starring -Queen Latifah & Jimmy Fallon



Adults \$3.50 Youth \$1.75
Movie recording line 687-5110.

Movies are subject to change due to availability.
For current and future movie listings log on to
<http://www.aafes.com/ems/conus/whiteman.htm>

Skills Development Center
687-5691

Stained glass panel class

Take a beginners' six-week stained glass panel class 6-9 p.m. Thursdays at the skills development center. There is a \$45 fee plus supplies. Call the skills development center for more details or stop by to sign up.

Tire change and balance certification

Winter months are almost here, so get certified and learn how to change and balance car tires 2-5 p.m. Saturday at the auto skills center. Call auto skills for more details; sign up today

Library
687-5614

Information and research assistance

To get information and research assistance, visit the library website at <http://www.WhitemanAFBlibrary.org> or visit the library for personal service from a librarian. For 24/7 help, go to our website and click on *Ask A Librarian*. Call the library for more information.

Family Child Care
687-5590/1180

Extended duty child care

Register now for the extended duty care program. It is available to help parents meet child care requirements for extra duty hours and child care emergencies. Care is provided in a contracted, licensed family child care home to augment regular care arrangements. An application must be completed prior to participation.

Veterinary Clinic
687-2667

Protect pets from winter's woes

No matter where you live, the winter season may bring hazards that you should be aware of. Be careful not to walk pets on sidewalks with de-icers or salts; these substances can be irritating to their paws. Products may cause illness if pets lick their paws and swallow enough of the de-icing product. For prevention, wipe off their paws and stomach when returning home. Call or visit the veterinary clinic for other winter tips and information.

Whiteman Inn
687-1844

Lodging holiday policy

During the holiday season, you can make family reservations up to two-weeks prior to arrival beginning Monday through Jan. 31 at the Whiteman Inn. You can reserve a total of three nights at a time, with the option to extend, based on availability. Call Whiteman Inn for further information.

